



BEECROFT WEAPONS RANGE

The Department of Defence's **Beecroft Weapons Range (BWR)** includes approximately 4,200 hectares of Beecroft Peninsula, the Northern headland of Jervis Bay NSW. The Peninsula is known as Bundarwa to the Jerrinja, the traditional custodians of the land.

The Range has been used for Defence training activities since the 1800s and is open to the public when conditions allow. This brochure contains important information on how to safely visit the Range, including details about its natural elements, unexploded ordnance (UXO), bushfires and wildlife. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the information and contact a Defence Ranger if you have any questions.

1. Green Point
2. Cabbage Tree Beach
3. Long Beach North
4. Long Beach South
5. Target Beach
6. Silica Cove
7. Little Target Beach
8. Boat Harbour
9. Outer Tubes

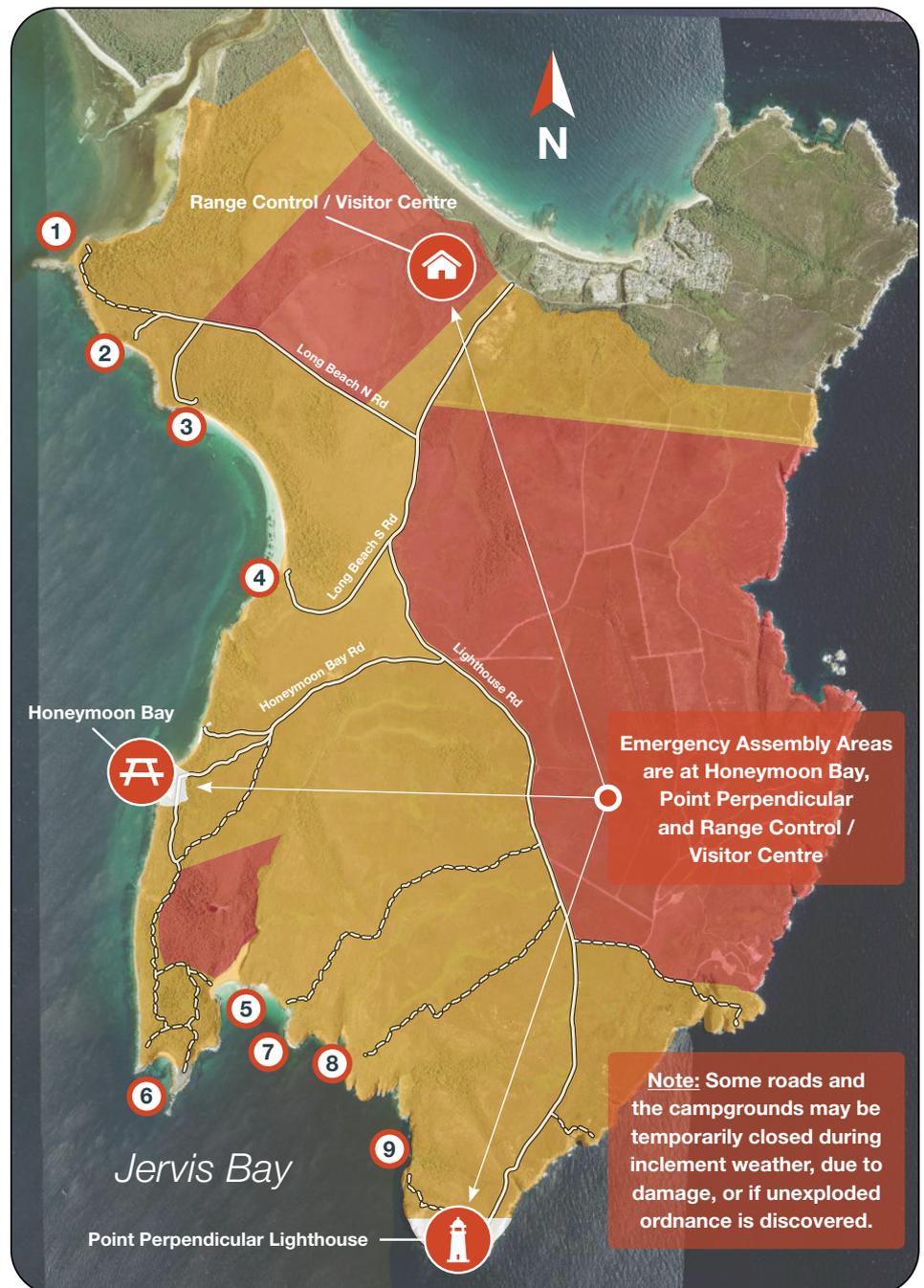
**In case of emergency
call 000 or contact the
Defence Rangers or
Range Control:**

Defence Rangers
(business hrs) **02 4448 3411**

Access Control / Security
(24 hrs) **02 4448 3248**

Call **131 444** for
non-life threatening situations
requiring police attendance

www.defence.gov.au/beecroft



There is some degree of residual hazard from UXO throughout the range due to its historical and ongoing use. The areas marked in red include known current and historical impact sectors. Stay on the roads, tracks and trails marked above. Do not dig. Do not light fires (without a permit from Defence Rangers).

YOUR SAFETY

Beecroft Range contains both natural hazards and hazards posed by unexploded ordnance (**UXO**).

By entering the range, you are voluntarily accepting there is a risk of harm to people and property arising from these hazards. Further, you are agreeing to take responsibility for your own safety and the safety of others in your care



Unexploded ordnance (UXO) is live ammunition which has not detonated after being fired. UXO may be present anywhere on BWR.

Defence takes prompt action to destroy or remove all UXO it becomes aware of, however there may be legacy UXOs present. UXO can present danger to life and property if disturbed.

- **Visitors must remain on formed walking tracks at all times.**
- **Do not dig.**
- **Do not light fires (unless issued a permit by Defence Rangers).**
- **If you come across anything that might be UXO, do not touch it, move it or tamper with it in any way. Notify Police on 131 444 or Defence staff immediately on 02 4448 3411 or 02 4448 3248 after hours.**

More information is available at:
<https://uxo.defence.gov.au>

Natural environment

Beecroft Range is a relatively remote environment with natural environmental hazards. Please ensure you have appropriate footwear and clothing for the conditions, carry enough water, and follow all signs on the Range. Potable water is not available once you enter the Range.

Cliffs

There are cliffs more than 75 metres high around Point Perpendicular and on the Eastern coastline. Remain on walking tracks, stay behind fences and keep a safe distance from cliff edges. Exercise extreme caution, especially when windy. Children must be supervised at all times.

Ocean beaches

All walking tracks on the Range lead to the coast or unpatrolled beaches where there may be dangerous conditions including rips, undertows and heavy seas. Check local conditions and never swim alone or following consumption of alcohol or other drugs. Children should be closely and constantly supervised.

Note: If you are caught in a rip or current, do not attempt to swim against it, signal for help and float on your back until help arrives or you can swim to safety.

Rock platforms

Parts of the Range are very much exposed to the natural elements, particularly high seas and coastal winds. Conditions can change dramatically in a short time, so exercise caution when accessing rock platforms and always watch the waves.

Fires

Bushfires occur naturally in the Australian environment. Fire Danger Rating signs are posted throughout Beecroft Range. Check the fire danger level and take extra care as the rating increases.

Open fires are prohibited in any part of the Range, including Honeymoon Bay Campground, without prior authorisation. A penalty of more than \$2,000 applies for lighting a fire without a permit.

In case of bushfire: gather at one of the Emergency Assembly areas located at Honeymoon Bay rock platform, Bindjijine Jetty rock platform and the Point Perpendicular Lighthouse. Further advice and direction will be provided by Beecroft Range Staff or Emergency Services.

Driving and cycling

NSW Road Rules apply on the Range. Public roads are mostly gravel, with some soft sections and potholes. Road surfaces may be slippery, especially in wet weather. Roads may be busy and dust may obscure visibility. Follow the posted speed limits and drive to suit weather and road conditions.

When cycling, always wear a helmet and do not ride after dark or at twilight without lighting and reflective clothing.

Dangerous Wildlife

There are several rare and endangered plant and animal species on the Peninsula including several dangerous species.

- Venomous snakes include the Red-Bellied Black Snake, Eastern Brown Snake and Eastern Death Adder.
- Venomous spiders include the Funnel Web Spider, Red-Back Spider and White-Tailed Spider. Paralysis Ticks, Wasps and European Honeybees are present and may be dangerous to those who are allergic.
- Dangerous marine species include the Blue-Ringed Octopus, Sting Rays and Bluebottles.

Do not feed the wildlife, feeding may cause aggressive behaviour. Contact the Defence Rangers if you think an animal presents a danger or is injured.

HERITAGE VALUE

Beecroft Peninsula is listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List and is protected by legislation under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. There are sites of cultural and spiritual significance to the Jerrinja people, who know it as Bundarwa.

Point Perpendicular and its Lighthouse, dating from 1898, is one of Jervis Bay's most distinctive landmarks. The Lighthouse was decommissioned in 1993, following construction of the solar-powered light tower. It is located approximately 10 km from the Range Control / Visitor Centre entrance gate. Access to the lighthouse precinct is permitted when BWR is open to public access.



CAMPING AND BUSHWALKING

Basic picnic and camping facilities are available at Honeymoon Bay Campground when the Range is open to the public. A campers' Code of Conduct applies.

Bookings can be made via www.defence.gov.au/beecroft up to 14 days in advance, except for NSW Summer school holidays, where bookings will open from early October.

Portable toilets, garbage and recycling bins are provided. Water containers may be refilled from a water outlet in the car park at Range Control / Visitors Centre. Visitors must bring their own supplies including water and gas-operated cooking equipment. Wood and solid fuel fires are prohibited.

Camping fees are payable at Range Control / Visitors Centre during office hours when the Range is open to the public. Sites will be allocated on receipt of payment: \$15.00 per site per night (up to 2 people aged 16 and over, children under 16 free), \$5.00 per night per additional person.



Fishing

A licence is required to fish in NSW. NSW Fisheries Regulations apply including gear, size and bag limits. Several Marine Park Sanctuary Zones adjoin the Range and are marked on Marine Park maps and signs. No fishing, or collecting of bait or other marine resources, is allowed in Sanctuary Zones.

Bushwalking

Walking tracks on the Range are signposted and are graded according to difficulty:

- **Easy:** for inexperienced walkers, including children
- **Medium:** for walkers with some experience. Not recommended for small children
- **Difficult:** for experienced walkers. Not recommended for children.

Signposted tracks:

- **Green Point:** 2.5km return, EASY
- **Cabbage Tree Beach:** 0.2km return, EASY
- **Long Beach North:** 0.5km return, EASY
- **Target Beach:** 4km return, MEDIUM CAUTION: beach can be dangerous with rips and strong currents
- **Silica Cove:** 6km return, MEDIUM
- **Little Target Beach:** 6km return, rock scramble, MEDIUM CAUTION: beach can be dangerous with high tides and large waves.
- **Boat Harbour:** 6km return, MEDIUM



- **Outer Tubes:** 2km return, MEDIUM (first section), DIFFICULT (remainder) CAUTION: Walk not suitable for small children or the physically impaired. Torpedo tubes were installed on the rock platform during World War II to protect Jervis Bay from enemy attack. Their rusted remains must not be interfered with due to their heritage value.

**Always stay on the formed walking tracks.
Some tracks end at unfenced cliffs.**

**Find out how to stay safe when bushwalking:
www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/safety/bushwalking-safety**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Public access to Beecroft Weapons Range occurs under specific legislation. In addition to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, the Range is subject to Defence (Public Areas) By Laws 2018, under which the following is enforceable by the Defence Rangers and Police.

Vehicles:

- Uses a vehicle other than on a public road or parking.
- Parks a vehicle in an area that is not a parking area.

Fires:

- Lights, maintains or uses a fire; and, the fire; and
- The fire is not in:
 - a portable barbecue or portable stove that uses liquefied petroleum gas; or
 - a fireplace made available by the Commonwealth for use in the public area.

Animals, plants and environment:

- Takes an animal into a public area; or
- Permits an animal that is not wildlife to enter a public area.

DOES NOT APPLY IF:

- The animal is a guide dog or other animal trained to assist a person to alleviate the effect of a visual, hearing or other disability; and
- The person taking the animal into the public area is a person who has a disability of the kind the animal is trained to alleviate.

Firearms:

- The person possesses or uses a firearm in a public area.

Rubbish:

- Leaves any rubbish or litter in a place that is not a receptacle made available.

Camping:

- Camps in an area that is not a camping area.

Trespass:

- 15 (2) (d) at the time ...entry is prohibited by a sign erected or placed in accordance with subsection 15 (1)

Authorised direction and commercial:

- Contravenes a direction, warning or requirement on a sign
- Removes or interferes with a sign
- Erects or places a sign that is not approved
- Erects a building, booth, stall, post or other structure
- Supplies goods or services

Defence Rangers under Defence Act 1903 (s116w) are authorised as Enforcement Officer and where appropriate can:

- Require person/s to provide Full
- Name and residential address
- Direct person/s to leave the area
- May seize vehicle, article or thing
- Search a Vehicle